

REMARKS

The Specification is amended in order to show the correct relationship of this application with its parent application.

In particular, it is noted that this application is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/090,745, which was filed on March 6, 2002, in which the prosecution history of the now parent application is summarized below.

In an Office communication dated July 24, 2003, the Office restricted the claimed subject matter to three groups: (1) Group I (claims 1-8), drawn to a coating material and method of making the same coating material; (2) Group II (claims 9-15), drawn to a phoconductor; and (3) Group III (claims 16-18), drawn to an electrophotographic apparatus and related process cartridge.

On August 20, 2003, Applicants provided a response to the Office's restriction requirement, wherein Applicants elected with traverse Group II (claims 9-15). In this response, Applicants pointed out the errors in the Office's restriction requirement.

In turn, the Office mailed a non-final Office Action dated September 16, 2003; wherein the Office deemed the restriction requirement to be proper and made it final and withdrew claims 1-8 and 16-18 from further consideration. In this Office Action, the Office rejected claims 9-15.

On December 16, 2003, Applicants filed an Amendment and Request for Reconsideration, in which the outstanding rejection was traversed, wherein a reasoning why the rejection of claims 9-15 was improper was made of record.

In response to Applicants' Amendment and Remarks, the Examiner contacted Applicants' representative on January 6, 2004, and agreed with Applicants' reasoning and indicated that Claim 9 and all claims dependent thereon (10-15 and 19-26) were allowable. At that time, the Examiner requested that Applicants cancel non-elected claims 1-8 and 16-

18; in which case Applicants' representative authorized the Examiner to cancel the non-elected claims.

Subsequent to this authorization, a Notice of Allowability was mailed on January 22, 2004, with an indication that claims 9-15 and 19-24 were allowable.

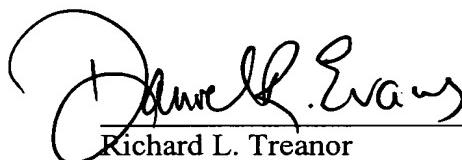
Therefore, claims 9-15 are cancelled without prejudice.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-8 and 16-18 will be active.

No new matter is believed to have been added. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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